



June/July 2007

## ELY FSA Office News

**Ely USDA - FSA**  
Service Center

**Ely FSA Office**  
HC 33, Box 33453  
Ely, NV 89301-9402

**Phone** (775) 289-4990  
**Fax** (775) 289-6629

[www.fsa.usda.gov/nv](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/nv)

**Hours**  
Monday - Friday  
7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### County Committee

Gordon Eldridge,	Chairman
Max Reid, Jr.,	Vice-Chair
Cleo K. Connell,	Member
Annette George,	Advisor

### Staff

Tyler Seal, CED	Ext 100
Vi Braden, PT	Ext 101
Cathy Yardley, FLO	
(775) 738-645	Ext 106

**NRCS Office**  
HC 33 Box 33451  
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### Staff

Tim Stack, DC	Ext 105
Clint Anderson, RMS	Ext 106



### COC CANDIDATES SOUGHT!

**LAA 1, LAA 3 and LAA 4 are up for election!** The Farm Service Agency is actively looking for producers as candidates for our local FSA County Committee. The members represent the producers and their agricultural interests. They help shape how federal farm programs are implemented on the ground in local communities.

Who do you know that would make a good county committee member? Who do you know that would be able to represent you and your farming interests, as well as your neighbor's interests?

If you can't think of another producer to nominate, why not nominate yourself? Serving on the committee will take, on average, one day a month, and you will be providing your community a vital service.

Committee members are reimbursed for travel expenses and are paid at the rate of a GS-6, Step 1, currently \$14.72 per hour. Just fill out a nomination form (FSA-699), sign and return to your local county office. The **nomination period** opened June 15<sup>th</sup> and **closes August 1<sup>st</sup>.**

### MORMON CRICKETS

**They're b-a-c-k!** It's that time again! Please contact the Nevada Department of Agriculture if **Mormon Crickets** are seen one to two miles from a farm or ranch. **Early notice is the key.** The ground will appear as if it is covered with fleas.

**Call:** Jeff Knight, 775 688-1182 ext 245  
Martin Larraneta 775 623-6502  
Steve Marty 775 688-1192 ext 278

### GEORGIA 4-H TEAM GETS TO KNOW NEVADA FROM THE AIR



A 4-H Team from the State of Georgia will be participating in a Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program in Cedar City, Utah in July, 2007. Their task is to evaluate wildlife habitat using aerial photography. Shown is the team of Elizabeth Shepard, Emily Shepard and Nate Harris together with Advisors David Williams and Ed Tomberlin reviewing aerial photography with Tyler Seal and Tim Stack of the Farm Service Center in Ely.

The team has been traveling throughout White Pine and Northeast Nye learning about wildlife habitat in Nevada from Nevada Department of Wildlife on the ground. They came to the Farm Service Center to obtain aerial photos so as to better understand how the same area they had viewed on the ground looked like from the air. Obviously, it is a big difference from Georgia.



## 2007 COMPLIANCE PROCESS

Starting this year, a new compliance and spot check selection process will be implemented for the 2007 crop year. Instead of locally selecting farms, contracts, deficiency loans, etc. for spot check and review, a nationwide selection of producers will be made using a statistical sampling method. Spot check selections will be conducted based on a producer's participation in CRP (Conservation Reserve Program), DCP (Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program), LDP (Loan Deficiency Program), etc. For more information about the new spot check selection procedure, feel free to contact your local FSA Office for clarification.

## NAP



If you are interested in purchasing NAP coverage for 2008, remember that the coverage must be purchased by:

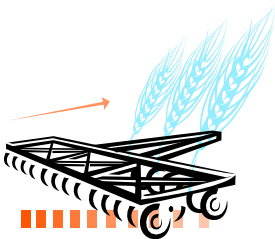
**October 1<sup>st</sup> for forage**  
**December 1<sup>st</sup> for grazing**

## AGRICULTURAL ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2007

On May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2007, President Bush signed into law the 2007 ACT which provides approximately \$3 billion in agricultural disaster aid for farmers and ranchers. The Act provides funds for a Crop Disaster Program, Livestock Compensation Program, Livestock Indemnity Program, Emergency Conservation Program and Dairy Disaster Assistance Program.

**The sign-up period has not yet been announced for these programs.**

More information about the FSA Disaster Programs is available on the agency's website at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov> and click on "Find FSA Fact Sheets" and search under the topic of "Disaster Assistance."



## FSA FARM LOANS

The Farm Service Agency makes both direct and guaranteed farm ownership and operating loans to family-size farmers and ranchers who are unable to obtain commercial credit from a bank, Farm Credit System institution or other lender. FSA loans can be used to purchase land, livestock, equipment, feed, seed and supplies. The loans can also be used to construct buildings or make farm improvements.

If you are having trouble obtaining commercial credit, check with the FSA county office about loan eligibility, as well as maximum loan amounts, rates, term and use of proceeds.

### Selected Interest Rates for July 2007

90-Day Treasury Bill	5.000%
Farm Operating - Direct	5.125%
Farm Ownership - Direct	5.375%
Limited Resource	5.000%
Farm Ownership - Beginning Farmer or Rancher Down Pym	4.000%
Emergency	3.750%
Farm Storage Facility	4.625%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	4.875%

## BEGINNING FARMERS, RANCHERS

Are you a farmer or rancher who has substantially participated in the farming operation for at least three years but no more than 10 years?

The program is designed to assist these farmers by providing direct and guaranteed loans when they are unable to obtain financing from commercial credit sources.

If you believe this program could be of benefit to you, please contact the county office for more information. FSA loan officials will be happy to arrange an appointment to meet with you and discuss your options.



**MORMON CRICKET**

## FOREIGN LANDOWNER NOTIFICATION

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) requires all foreign owners of U. S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Farm Service Agency administers this program for USDA.

Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA within 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property.

County government offices, real estate agents, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.



## SODBUSTER REGULATIONS

The term “sodbusting” is used to identify the plowing up of erosion-prone grasslands for use as cropland. Sodbuster violations are unauthorized tillage practices on highly erodible lands that converted native vegetation such as rangeland or woodland, to crop production after December 23, 1985.

Farmers and ranchers should be aware that if they use highly erodible land for crop production without proper conservation measures, they risk losing eligibility to participate in FSA programs.

Before producers clear, plow or otherwise prepare areas not presently under crop production for planting, they are required to file an AD-1026, indicating the area to be brought into production.

If the Natural Resources Conservation Service indicates on a CPA-026 that the area will be highly erodible land, the producer will be required to develop and implement a conservation plan on the affected acreage, before bringing land into production.



## LET'S BUILD A POND

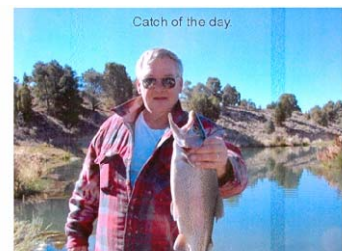
Lot's of landowners are building ponds for wildlife and water conservation in White Pine and Nye counties. Ponds add value to property and provide recreational opportunities. Ponds can also provide water for livestock and irrigation for hay and crops.

However, building ponds is an art and requires engineering to put them in the right spot and make them last a long time. Proper installation requires a technician to evaluate the watershed and to assure that the area is enhanced or improved by the pond itself.

To properly construct a pond the landowner should get a qualified contractor to insure proper installation. A well constructed pond will provide many years of good use and enjoyment for the landowner and great benefits to wildlife.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service can provide planning and engineering to assist you with constructing a pond. They also can provide financial assistance through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program or the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program. If you are interested in building a pond on your place call the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service at 775 289-9206.

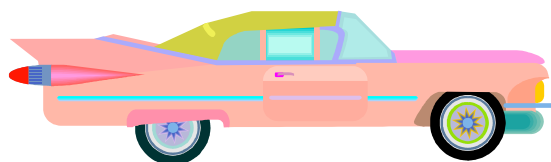
Jon Wall of Whiteman Creek shows off a monster Rainbow Trout he caught in his pond. NRCS assisted him in design and construction and provided financial assistance through the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program.



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**PRESORTED STANDARD**  
**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**  
**DAVIS, CA**  
**PERMIT #22**



#### Dates to Remember

Aug 1	COC Candidate Nomination closes
Aug 3	DCP sign-up deadline
Aug 3	Hot August Nights - Reno
Aug 6	STC Meeting in Ely
Aug 22	Nevada State Fair - Reno
Sep 3	Office Closed – Labor Day Holiday
Sep 9	Reno Balloon Races
Sep 12	National Air Races - Reno
Sep 19	Street Vibrations - Reno
Oct 6	Italians Festival - Reno
Oct 8	Office Closed – Columbus Day
Oct 26	Nevada Day
Con- tinues	Grasslands Reserve Program

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